Application No. 09/873,500   Docket No.: NY-QMET 201-US

LISTING OF CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings in this application.

1.   (Previously presented)   A method of assessing the health status or health care of a patient, comprising the steps of:

generating a customized test, based on the patient's characteristics and one or more health domains selected by a patient or a health care provider, said test having a plurality of questions for said patient in accordance with said selected health domains;

administering said test by providing one question at a time to said patient; and after each question:

evaluating answers provided by said patient to administered questions to estimate a score and a confidence level in the accuracy of said estimated score;

varying a threshold as a function of said estimated score; and

dynamically modifying said test based on an answer provided to an immediately prior question if said estimated confidence level is outside said threshold

2.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of generating a report regarding the health status of said patient.

3.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein said domain is a condition experienced or perceived by said patient.

4.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of dynamically modifying includes the step of ranking said plurality of questions in accordance with said estimated score; and selecting a question from said plurality of questions based on said ranking that has not been administered to said patient.

5.   (Original)   The method of claim 4, wherein the step of selecting comprises selecting a highest rank question.

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6.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of dynamically modifying includes the step of terminating said administration of said test if it is determined that said estimated confidence level is within said threshold.

7.   (Canceled)

8.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of generating selects said questions for said domain from a database having questions and answers pertaining to a plurality of domains.

9.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of administering includes the step of providing a list of possible answers for each question to said patient.

10.   (Previously presented)   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of estimating includes the step of statistically analyzing said answers provided by said patient for errors or consistency.

11.   (Canceled)

12.   (Original)   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of estimating includes the step of statistically analyzing said answers provided by said patient for estimating non-responsive answers to said test.

13.   (Original)   The method of claim 2, wherein the step of reporting includes the step of comparing said answers provided by said patient with answers provided by other patients in said domain.

14.   (Previously presented)   The method of claim 1, wherein the step of administering includes the step of administering said test to said patients over a network, wherein said network is one of the following: an Internet, an intranet, a telephone network, and a wireless network.

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15.   (Original)   The method of claim 2, wherein the step of generating reports includes the step of generating said report over a network.

16.   (Canceled)

17.   (Previously presented)   The method of claim 1, wherein said domain includes at least one of the following: severity of headaches, level of depression, degree of personal mobility, self-perceived status, effectiveness of a treatment, physical health, emotional health, impact of asthma, job satisfaction, opinion polling, personality test, customer satisfaction and general overall health.

18.   (Previously presented)   A computer based system for assessing the health status or health care of a patient, comprising:

a test module for generating a customized test, based on the patient's characteristics and one or more health domains selected by a patient or a health care provider, said test having a plurality of questions for said patient in accordance with said selected health domains;

an administration module for administering said test by providing one question at a time to said patient; and

an evaluation module, after each question for:

evaluating, answers provided by said patient to administered questions to estimate a score and a confidence level in the accuracy of said estimated score;

varying a threshold as a function of said estimated score; and

dynamically modify said test based on an answer provided to an immediately prior question if said estimated confidence level is outside said threshold.

19.   (Original)   The system of claim 18, further comprising a report module for generating a report regarding the health status of said patient.

20.   (Original)   The system of claim 18, wherein said domain is a condition experienced or perceived by said patient.

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21. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein said evaluation module is operable to rank said plurality of questions in accordance with said estimated score and select a question from said plurality of questions based on said ranking that has not been administered to said patient.

22. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein said evaluation module is operable to select a highest rank question.

23. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein said administration module is operable to terminate said administration of said test if it is determined that said estimated confidence level is within said threshold.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein said test module is operable to generate said questions for said domain from a database having questions and answers pertaining to a plurality of domains.

26. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein said administration module is operable to provide a list of possible answers for each question to said patient.

27. (Previously presented) The system of claim 18, wherein said evaluation module is operable to statistically analyze said answers provided by said patient for errors or consistency.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein said evaluation module is operable to statistically analyze said answers provided by said patient for estimating non-responsive answers to said test.

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30. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein said reporting module is operable to compare said answers provided by said patient with answers provided by other patients in said domain.

31. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein said administration module is operable to administer said test to said patients over a network.

32. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein said reporting module is operable to generate said report over a network.

33. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein said network is one of the following: an Internet, an intranet, a telephone network, and a wireless network.

34. (Previously presented) The system of claim 18, wherein said domain includes at least one of the following: severity of headaches, level of depression, degree of personal mobility, self-perceived status, effectiveness of a treatment, physical health, emotional health, impact of asthma and general overall health.

35. (Previously presented) A method of dynamically administering a test to assess one or more domains, comprising the steps of:

generating a customized test, based on a respondent's characteristics and one or more domains selected by the respondent or test provider, said test having a plurality of questions for said respondent in accordance with said selected domains;

administering said test by providing one question at a time to said respondent; and

after each question:

evaluating answers provided by said respondent to administered questions to estimate a score and a confidence level in the accuracy of said estimated score;

varying threshold as a function of said estimated score; and

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dynamically modifying said test based on an answer provided to an immediately prior question if said estimated confidence level is outside said threshold.

36.   (Original)   The method of claim 35, wherein the step of dynamically modifying includes the step of terminating said administration of said test if it is determined that said estimated confidence level is within said threshold.

37.   (Original)   The method of claim 35, wherein said domain is one or more health related or non-related conditions.

38.   (Original)   The method of claim 37, wherein said domain includes at least one of the following: severity of headaches, level of depression, degree of personal mobility, self-perceived status, general overall health, effectiveness of a treatment, job satisfaction, opinion polling, personality test, and customer satisfaction.

39.   (Previously presented)   A computer readable media for controlling a computer to perform the steps of:

    generating a customized test, based on the patient's characteristics and one or more health domains selected by a patient or a health care provider, said test having a plurality of questions for said patient in accordance with said selected health domains;

    administering said test by providing one question at a time to said patient; and after each question:

        evaluating answers provided by said patient to administered questions to estimate a score and a confidence level in the accuracy of said estimated score; and

        varying a threshold as a function of said estimated score;

    dynamically modifying said test based on an answer provided to an immediately prior question if said estimated confidence level is outside said threshold.

40.   (Previously presented)   The computer readable media of claim 39, wherein the step of dynamically modifying includes the step of terminating said administration of

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said test if it is determined that said estimated confidence level is within said threshold.

41.   (Previously presented)   The method of claim 1, wherein at least two domains are selected to be assessed.

42.   (Previously presented)   The method of claim 1, wherein said step of administering said test further comprises the step of administering said test before a variable is introduced, wherein said variable includes one of the following: a pharmaceutical, drug composition change, therapeutic method, health care provider, health care regimen, environmental change, lifestyle change, or work change, and further comprising the steps of:

readministering said test after said variable is introduced; and

comparing resultant data obtained from each separate administration of said test, wherein said resultant data is indicative of efficacy or impact of the introduction of said variable on said health status or health care of said patient.

43.   (Previously presented)   The computer based system of claim 18, wherein said administration module is operable to:

administer said test before a variable is introduced, wherein said variable includes one of the following: a pharmaceutical, drug composition change, therapeutic method, health care provider, health care regimen, environmental change, lifestyle change, or work change;

readminister said test after said variable is introduced; and

wherein said system further comprises a comparison module for comparing resultant data obtained from each separate administration of said test by said administration module, wherein said resultant data is indicative of efficacy or impact of the introduction of said variable on said health status or health care of said patient.

44.   (Previously presented)   The method of claim 35, wherein said step of administering said test further comprises the step of administering said test before a

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variable is introduced, wherein said variable includes one of the following: a pharmaceutical, drug composition change, therapeutic method, health care provider, health care regimen, environmental change, lifestyle change, or work change, and further comprising the steps of:

readministering said test after said variable is introduced; and

comparing resultant data obtained from each separate administration of said test, wherein said resultant data is indicative of efficacy or impact of the introduction of said variable on said health status or health care of said respondent.

45.   (Previously presented)   The computer readable media of claim 39, wherein said step of administering said test further comprises the step of administering said test before a variable is introduced, wherein said variable includes one of the following: a pharmaceutical, drug composition change, therapeutic method, health care provider, health care regimen, environmental change, lifestyle change, or work change, and further comprising the steps of:

readministering said test after said variable is introduced; and

comparing resultant data obtained from each separate administration of said test, wherein said resultant data is indicative of efficacy or impact of the introduction of said variable on said health status or health care of said patient.